

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 195874

21

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 H-02 /058 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:RONEILL:RGH

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)

NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH (INFO)

NEA/EGY - MR. MATTHEWS (INFO)

NEA/ARN - MR. AY (INFO)

NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN (INFO)

----- 110535

R 182221Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANA

USINT BAGHDAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 195874

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 195874

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR
AUGUST 18, 1975:

Q. COULD YOU GIVE US A ROUGH IDEA OF WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE
OF THE SECRETARY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST--
WITH WHOM HE PLANS TO MEET BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE? DOES HE
PLAN TO MEET WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ?

A. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT ANY MEETING IS PRESENTLY SCHEDULED
BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND THE AMBASSADOR BEFORE THE
SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE LATE WEDNESDAY. I DON'T RULE THAT
OUT.

Q. WHEN IS HE LEAVING ON WEDNESDAY? DO YOU KNOW THE TIME?

A. LATE WEDNESDAY. I DON'T HAVE THE TIME YET. IT WILL
BE IN THE EVENING.

Q. WHAT OTHER OFFICIALS ARE GOING ON THIS TRIP?

A. I KNOW THAT MR. SISCO AND MR. ATHERTON ARE GOING. I
HAVE NOT SEEN A LIST OF THE U.S. DELEGATION.

Q. HAS THE DATE FOR SAUDI ARABIA BEEN SET OR NOT YET?

A. NO, IT HAS NOT BEEN SET.

Q. DOES THIS VOTE (IN CONGRESS ON AN INTERIM AGREEMENT)
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 195874

TAKE PLACE AFTER THERE HAS BEEN AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT
AND ISRAEL? HOW DOES THAT WORK? AND WHEN DOES IT ALL
HAPPEN?

A. FIRST, WE DON'T HAVE AN AGREEMENT AS YET. THAT IS
THE PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP. SO IF, AS WE HOPE, AN AGREEMENT
IS REACHED, AFTER HIS RETURN WE WOULD THEN -- IF THIS
PART OF THE AGREEMENT THAT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED REMAINS IN
IT AND BOTH SIDES WANT IT -- WE WOULD THEN SUBMIT IT TO
THE CONGRESS, PLUS ANY OTHER ASPECTS OF THE AGREEMENT
THAT RELATE TO AMERICAN PARTICIPATION.

Q. IF THE PARTICIPATION OF AMERICAN MONITORS, OR WHATEVER YOU CALL THEM, IS MADE A CONDITION OF THE AGREEMENT AND YOU WANT FORMAL APPROVAL BY CONGRESS, ARE YOU GIVING CONGRESS A VETO POWER OVER THE INTERIM AGREEMENT -- WHICH, OF COURSE, THEY ARE NOT GOING TO EXERCISE AT THIS POINT. BUT ISN'T THAT THE CASE?

A. IN THE FIRST PLACE, AS A RESULT OF OUR CONSULTATIONS AND SOUNDINGS, BOTH BY THE DEPARTMENT AND BY THE WHITE HOUSE, WE DON'T, AS YOU HAVE JUST SAID, EXPECT THAT THE CONGRESS WILL REJECT US ON THIS.

SECONDLY -- ON BACKGROUND -- IF THE HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION YOU ARE DESCRIBING OCCURS, THEN IT WOULD BE UP TO THE PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED - ISRAEL AND EGYPT - TO DECIDE WHETHER THE OTHER ASPECTS OF THE AGREEMENT OUGHT TO BE IMPLEMENTED. BUT I WANT TO EMPHASIZE AGAIN THAT WE DON'T EXPECT THAT THIS WILL HAPPEN. END BACKGROUND.

Q. DOESN'T THIS IN EFFECT LOAD THE DICE JUST A LITTLE BIT? IF YOU COME BACK FROM THE MIDDLE EAST WITH A WHOLE DEAL, EVERYTHING WORKED OUT, AND THEN YOU GO TO CONGRESS AND SAY, "ALL WE NEED IS FOR YOU TO SAY YES TO MAYBE A HUNDRED DIVILIAN ADVISERS," DO YOU REALLY LEAVE MUCH CHOICE?

A. THAT KIND OF A CHOICE IS NOT UNUSUAL. WHAT YOU HAVE TO WEIGH WHEN YOU DECIDE THAT YOU HAVE TO GO TO THE CONGRESS IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE. AND, AS THE SECRETARY HAS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 195874

INDICATED, WE REALLY BELIEVE THAT THIS PARTICULAR ASPECT, IF IT SHOULD COME TO PASS, OF AN AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE FORM OF TECHNICIANS, WE FEEL IT IS OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE THAT WE WANT CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

Q. WHERE DO YOU FIND TECHNICIANS WHO DO NOT WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND WHO KNOW HOW TO OPERATE SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT FOR LISTENING OR MONITORING, OR WHATEVER THEY DO?

A. I WOULD SUPPOSE THAT THE MANUFACTURERS OF THAT KIND OF EQUIPMENT MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE TRAINED TECHNICIANS.

Q. ARE YOU SATISFIED THAT JUST BY TALKING WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND PERHAPS SEVERAL OTHERS THAT YOU REALLY HAVE A SOUNDING OF WHAT THE WHOLE CONGRESS WANTS?

A. THE WHITE HOUSE HAS INDICATED TO US THAT THEY HAVE

BEEN CONSULTING WITH A GREAT NUMBER OF CONGRESSMEN. AND, IN ANY EVENT, THE CONGRESS WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITSELF AS A WHOLE IN THE FORM OF A VOTE.

Q. COULD YOU TELL ME HOW MANY (MONITORING) STATIONS THERE ARE ALREADY IN THAT AREA?

A. NO, I DON'T HAVE THAT INFORMATION.

Q. IS IT CORRECT TO ASSUME THAT SOME OF THESE WILL BE DISMANTLED AND NEW ONES WILL BE BUILT BY THE AMERICANS?

A. I'M NOT ABLE TO GO INTO ANY DETAILS AT THIS POINT.

Q. WOULD THERE BE JUST ONE VOTE ON THE WHOLE AGREEMENT, OR A SEPARATE VOTE ON THE AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT.

A. I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT FORM THIS EXPRESSION OF CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL WILL TAKE. IN ADDITION, THERE IS THE QUESTION OF AID LEVELS, WHICH WILL BE VOTED IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL ON APPROPRIATIONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05 STATE 195874

Q. I THINK NEWSWEEK HAS A STORY -- SAYING THE ADMINISTRATION WAS GOING TO ASK CONGRESS FOR A VOTE IN ADDITION TO THE TECHNICIANS, FOR SOME STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S SECURITY, SOME KIND OF FORMAL WORDAGE ON THIS.

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON THAT?

A. NO, I REALLY DON'T HAVE ANYTHING MORE THAN WHAT THE SECRETARY SAID YESTERDAY.

Q. JUST ONE POINT. WHEN YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT THE AID LEVELS A MOMENT AGO, WERE YOU IMPLYING A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE AGREEMENT AND THE AID LEVEL?

A. WE HAVE SAID THAT AFTER THE REASSESSMENT AND AFTER THE AGREEMENT, WE WOULD BE SUBMITTING AID LEVELS TO THE CONGRESS. I'M NOT TYING IT DIRECTLY; I WAS JUST RESPONDING TO THIS QUESTION ON DIFFERENT VOTES, THAT OBVIOUSLY THERE WOULD BE A VOTE ON AID LEVELS, WHICH WOULD BE IN THE NORMAL APPROPRIATION.

Q. BUT THAT DOESN'T FALL IN THE SAME CATEGORY AS VOTING ON TECHNICIANS.

A. NO.

Q. HAVE WE TALKED WITH THE RUSSIANS ABOUT THE MATTER OF SENDING CIVILIANS INTO THE SINAI? AND DOESN'T THIS

OPEN UP THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE RUSSIANS MAY SAY, "HOW ABOUT US? WHY CAN'T WE SEND IN CIVILIANS SOMEWHERE ELSE? SAY, IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS."

A. IN A GENERAL WAY, THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION - IS THAT THE FINAL FORM THAT THE AGREEMENT TAKES WILL BE THE PRODUCT OF THE TALKS THAT WE ARE HAVING WITH THE ISRAELIS AND THE EGYPTIANS AND WILL BE BY AGREEMENT WITH THOSE TWO PARTIES. NOW, WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT INFORMED IN A GENERAL WAY ON OUR TALKS. WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS IN THE PAST, AND WE CONTINUE TO DO IT.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 06 STATE 195874

Q. TO FOLLOW UP, IT WAS THE SECRETARY HIMSELF WHO OFTEN SAID THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO SEE THE UNITED STATES GET INVOLVED IN A PEACEKEEPING FORCE BECAUSE IT WOULD REQUIRE ALSO SOVIET PARTICIPATION AND THAT WOULD CREATE A PERMANENT SOVIET PRESENCE IN THE AREA. HOW IS THE SECRETARY FEELING ABOUT THAT SITUATION THESE DAYS?

A. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT THESE ARE A PEACEKEEPING FORCE. THEY ARE TECHNICIANS.....

THE SECRETARY SAID THAT THEY ARE UNARMED. THEY ARE A CIVILIAN FORCE PERFORMING A TECHNICAL FUNCTION. I DO NOT THINK YOU WOULD CHARACTERIZE PREVIOUS ROLES OF

SURVEILLANCE THAT WE HAVE PERFORMED IN THE AREA AS KEEPING THE PEACE. IT IS PROVIDING INFORMATION TO THE TWO PARTIES. AND I THINK THAT IS AN IMPORTANT DISTINCTION.

Q. THEY WOULD BE THERE UNDER THE UN OR UNDER THE U.S. FLAG?

A. I DO NOT THINK THAT HAS BEEN DETERMINED, JUST WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THEIR PRESENCE AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE UN. I AM SURE IT WILL BE IN VERY CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE UN.

Q. DOESN'T THE UN FORCE ALSO CARRY ONLY SMALL PERSONAL ARMS?

A. YES, BUT THEY ARE UNIFORMED SOLDIERS. AND I THINK THERE IS A DISTINCTION, AS DESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY WHEN HE CONCEDED THAT THESE TECHNICIANS MIGHT HAVE SMALL ARMS FOR SELF-PROTECTION AGAINST MARAUDERS, AND THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IS UNDER MILITARY COMMAND.

Q. HAVE WE CONSULTED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ON THIS?

A. I ASSUME WE HAVE BEEN KEEPING THE UN INFORMED.

Q. WHY IS THE SECRETARY SO PREOCCUPIED WITH THE BUSINESS
OF GETTING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR AMERICANS OF ANY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 07 STATE 195874

ILK IN THIS FUNCTION? IS IT BECAUSE OF THE BEGINNING OF
THE VIET-NAM EXPERIENCE? THE FIRST AMERICANS WHO WENT
IN WERE DESCRIBED AS ADVISERS OR TECHNICIANS, AND THEN
THERE WAS AN EXPANSION UP TO HALF A MILLION. IS THAT
THE REASON FOR IT?

A. HE HAS NOT TOLD ME THAT SPECIFICALLY, BUT I THINK
THAT IS A FAIR ASSESSMENT -- THE WHOLE CONCERN IN THIS
COUNTRY ABOUT AMERICANS INVOLVED IN THIS KIND OF A
SITUATION. THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY FEEL THAT IT
IS OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE THAT WE WANT CONGRESSIONAL
APPROVAL.

Q. CAN YOU TELL US IF IT IS AN ESTABLISHED FACT THAT
ISRAEL HAS AGREED NOT TO TEST THE RIGHT OF ITS CARGO TO
PASS THROUGH THE SUEZ CANAL UNTIL THIS AGREEMENT IS
COMPLETED?

A. I AM NOT ABLE TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

Q. HAS ANYBODY CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT IF

AMERICAN CIVILIAN MONITORS GOT WIPED OUT IN A RESUMPTION
OF HOSTILITIES AND THE NATIONAL ADRENALIN GOT FLOWING
AGAIN, THE U.S. MIGHT FIND ITSELF INVOLVED BACK IN THERE
ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE KILLING OF CIVILIANS IS
DEPLORABLE?

A. YOU HAVE TO ASSUME THAT WE HAVE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT
ALL SUCH POSSIBILITIES AS THAT. AND IT IS PRECISELY
BECAUSE OF ITS IMPORTANCE AND ITS POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS
THAT WE ARE SEEKING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

Q. CAN YOU SAY WHETHER THIS AGREEMENT WILL DEAL WITH
CONTINGENCIES, FOR EXAMPLE, IF ONE OR ANOTHER SIDE
MOBILIZES, IF THERE IS PRE-EMPTION, WHAT THESE AMERICANS
WILL DO? DO THEY STAY, DO THEY GO? WHAT'S THE USE OF
AN EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IF ONE SIDE MOBILIZES? DO THEY
LEAVE? I'M NOT ASKING FOR THE ANSWERS; BUT ARE THESE
QUESTIONS BEING HANDLED IN THE AGREEMENT?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 08 STATE 195874

A. I'M NOT ABLE TO RESPOND TO YOUR QUESTION DIRECTLY. BUT I AM SURE THAT AT SOME POINT WHEN THESE QUESTIONS ARE RAISED WE WILL BE ABLE TO RESPOND TO THEM.

Q. EVEN THOUGH THESE CIVILIANS MIGHT BE INDEED CIVILIANS AND WORKING FOR THE COMPANIES THAT MANUFACTURE THIS EQUIPMENT, WHO WOULD PAY THEM? IF IT'S THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT THAT PAYS THEM, WOULDN'T THEY THEN BE U.S. GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF THEIR PRESENCE THERE?

A. I AM JUST NOT ABLE TO RESPOND AT THIS POINT ON THE DETAILS THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT ALONG THE LINES OF THE QUESTIONS YOU ARE NOW RAISING.

Q. IS IT TRUE THAT ANY AGREEMENT REACHED AT THIS POINT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT WILL BE HELD UP PENDING THE RESOLUTION OF THIS FACTOR OF CIVILIANS BEING STATIONED IN THE SINAI BY THE CONGRESS?

A. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, THE PARTIES CONCERNED WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION. BUT IF THE TWO PARTIES FEEL THAT THIS IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE AGREEMENT, THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION WOULD SEEM TO BE YES, BECAUSE WE ARE NOT GOING TO HAVE AMERICAN CIVILIANS PRESENT IN THE SINAI EXCEPT WITH CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

Q. HAS ISRAEL OFFICIALLY INFORMED THE U.S. THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO LEAVE ONE OF THE STATIONS CALLED BELUZA?

A. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT POINT.

Q. HAS IT BEEN WORKED OUT YET AS TO WHETHER ISRAELIS OR EGYPTIANS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE OPERATION OF THESE STATIONS?

A. THE GENERAL ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION AND THESE OTHER QUESTIONS IS THAT I AM NOT REALLY ABLE TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS ABOUT DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT. WE DON'T HAVE AN AGREEMENT YET.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 09 STATE 195874

Q. DO YOU HAVE A ROUGH IDEA HOW LONG DR. KISSINGER'S TRIP WILL LAST?

A. I THINK HE INDICATED YESTERDAY THAT HE IS GOING TO LEAVE WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND HE HAS TO BE BACK IN NEW YORK (FOR THE SPECIAL UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION) AROUND THE FIRST OR THE SECOND. HE DOESN'T RULE OUT THE

POSSIBILITY, IF NECESSARY, OF RETURNING TO THE MIDDLE EAST
BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT TO OPERATE UNDER A DEADLINE.

SISCO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE195874
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/P:RONEILL:RGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750285-1095
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197508101/baaaasiq.tel
Line Count: 385
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 8
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, US
To: ALGIERS
AMMAN
BEIRUT
CAIRO
DAMASCUS
JIDDA

KUWAIT
DHAHRAN
JERUSALEM
KHARTOUM
MANAMA
TEHRAN
TEL AVIV
TRIPOLI
RABAT
LONDON
PARIS
MOSCOW
ROME
USUN N Y
NATO
SANA
BAGHDAD
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006